

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application

Inventor: Richard Bontrager, et al.
Appl. No.: 10/717,110
Filed: November 19, 2003
Title: MODIFIED SPRING SYSTEM END
CAP FOR PACKAGING FRAGILE
ARTICLES WITHIN SHIPPING
CARTONS

PATENT APPLICATION

Art Unit: 3632
Examiner: Jonathon A. Szumny

Customer No.: 23910

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.8

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited in the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to **Mail Stop Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450**, on February 10, 2005.

(Attorney Signature)

Michael L. Robbins, Reg. No. 54,774
Signature Date: February 10, 2005

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.56

Mail Stop Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
PO Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

It is requested that the information identified in this statement be considered by the Examiner and made of record in the above-identified application. This statement is not intended to represent that a search has been made or that the information cited in the statement is, or is considered to be, material to patentability as defined in 37 CFR §1.56. If this is a continuation, divisional or continuation-in-part application, it is understood that the Examiner will consider all information which was considered by the Office in a parent application. MPEP §609. Such information therefore is not listed herein unless it is desired that the information be printed on a patent issuing from the subject application.

Enclosed with this statement are the following:

- X Form PTO-1449. The Examiner is requested to initial the form and return it to the undersigned in accordance with MPEP §609.
- X The present application is being/was filed after June 30, 2003. In accordance with the pre-Official Gazette waiver of 37 CFR 1.98 (a)(2)(i) posted at pac/dapp/opla/preognotice/idswouscopies.htm, copies of cited U.S. patents and publications are not enclosed.

This statement should be considered because:

- **37 CFR §1.97(b).** This statement qualifies under 37 CFR §1.97, subsection (b) because:
- (1) It is being filed within three months of the filing date of an application other than a continued prosecution application under §1.53(d);
-- OR --
 - (2) It is being filed within 3 months of entry of a national stage;

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-- OR --

- (3) It is being filed before the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits,

-- OR --

- (4) It is being filed before the mailing date of the first Office Action after the filing of a Request for Continued Examination under 37 CFR §1.114.

X **37 CFR §1.97(c).** Although it may not qualify under subsection (b), this statement qualifies under 37 CFR §1.97, subsection (c) because:

- (1) It is being filed before the mailing date of a FINAL Office Action, a Notice of Allowance, or an action that otherwise closes prosecution in the subject application, whichever occurs first.

-- AND (check at least one of the following) --

- (1) It is accompanied by a STATEMENT as set forth in 37 CFR §1.97(e).

-- OR --

- X (2) It is accompanied by the \$180 fee set forth in 37 CFR §1.17(p).

 37 CFR §1.97(d). Although it may not qualify under subsection (b) or (c), this statement qualifies under 37 CFR §1.97, subsection (d) because:

- (1) It is being filed on or before payment of the issue fee;

-- AND --

- (2) It is accompanied by a STATEMENT as set forth in 37 CFR §1.97(e);

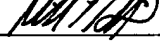
-- AND --

- (3) It is accompanied by the \$180 fee set forth in 37 CFR §1.17(p).

X **Fee Authorization.** The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge underpayment of any additional fees or credit any overpayment associated with this communication to Deposit Account No. 06-1325.

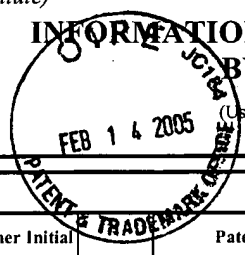
Respectfully submitted,

Date: February 10, 2005

By: 
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FORM PTO-1449 (Substitute)	US DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE	Attorney Docket Number RSVP-03008US0	Application No. 10/717,110
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION BY APPLICANT (Use several sheets if necessary)		Applicant Bontrager, et al.	
		Filing Date November 19, 2003	Group Art Unit 3632



U.S. PATENTS							
Examiner Initial	Patent Number	Issue Date	Name	Class	Subclass	Filing Date	
	1.	4,515,272 A	5/7/1985	Newhouse			3/29/1983
	2.	5,131,543 A	7/21/1992	Stephens			10/03/91
	3.	5,226,543 A	7/13/1993	Foos et al.			2/24/1992
	4.	5,249,685 A	10/5/1993	Stephens			7/17/1992
	5.	5,385,232 A	1/31/1995	Foos et al.			1/24/1994
	6.	5,445,292 A	8/29/1995	Slomski et al.			9/9/1993
	7.	5,515,976 A	5/14/1996	Moren et al.			8/18/1995
	8.	5,545,370 A	8/13/1996	Moren et al.			4/11/1994
	9.	5,586,677 A	12/24/1996	Foos			9/30/1994
	10.	5,634,559 A	6/3/1997	Foos et al.			7/27/1995
	11.	5,788,105 A	8/4/1998	Foos			4/15/1997
	12.	6,010,007 A	1/4/2000	Moren et al.			2/21/1997
	13.	6,123,200 A	9/26/2000	Stephens et al.			4/6/1999
	14.	6,142,304 A	11/7/2000	Moren et al.			11/5/1999
	15.	RE37,253	7/3/2001	Moren et al.			5/12/1998
	16.	6,520,337 B2	2/18/2003	Smith			1/24/2000

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS						
Examiner Initial	Document Number	Publication Date	Country	Translation		
				Yes	No	

OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, etc.)		

EXAMINER	DATE CONSIDERED
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EXAMINER: Initial if references considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP § 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

*1 = Copy not submitted because it was submitted in prior application ____ / _____, filed _____, 20____, and relied upon under 35 USC §120.
 *2 = Copy not submitted because it was submitted in prior application ____ / _____, filed _____, 20____, and relied upon under 35 USC §120.